



Florida House of Representatives

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HOUSE ENSURES GAS TAX BENEFITS CONSUMER

TALLAHASSEE – Recently, Floridians have seen gas prices hit record highs and experts have predicted that gas prices will continue to increase into the summer. Earlier this session, the Florida House passed an amendment, with overwhelming bi-partisan support, to provide Floridians with gas tax relief during the summer.

“It is imperative that this reduction be passed on directly to the consumer and not into the hands of already wealthy oil companies or middlemen,” said Speaker Johnnie Byrd. “By ensuring that Florida can enforce any abuse of this tax relief, we guarantee that the citizens of this state will see real relief from rising gas prices.”

The amendment would reduce gas taxes 10 cents per gallon for one month during the summer. To ensure consumers benefit from the tax relief, the House is proposing to make it a 3rd degree felony for a gas company to fail to pass the entire tax relief to the consumer. The attorney general would have the authority to investigate and pursue prosecution, if necessary, any company that did not comply.

“Making ends meet by not purchasing fuel is not an option for most people,” stated Byrd, “As budget negotiations continue, House members will work hard to ensure that tax relief is provided to all Floridians.”

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